

THE PLANTS SHOULD HAVE ABOUT 18 HOURS OF LIGHT A DAY. The most common mistake of indoor growers is the tendency to give the plants 24 hours of light each day. NEVER MAKE THIS MISTAKE. This practice retards growth rather than promoting it. Give the plants a break, for growth quality is dependent upon the period of darkness they receive, as well as the period of light. IT IS WISE TO BUY A TIMER (APPROXIMATELY \$7.50) TO INSURE THE PROPER DAY-NIGHT-CYCLE.

Plants grown under artificial light will definitely need supports at various times, especially during the younger stages. This is because artificial light does not produce as strong a stem as sunlight, and the top of the plant has a tendency to lop over to one side. As the young plants are tiny, attaching a support is a delicate operation. Coat hanger wire is good, but any thin piece of wire or wood will suffice. The hard part is fastening the plant to the support without inflicting injury upon the plant. Use sewing thread for this purpose because it places no stress on the delicate stems. The stem should be tied to the support with a circle of thread about 1/4" in diameter. If the plant has two or more sets of leaves, the thread should be placed between the leaves nearest the top, and the leaves just below them. If there is only one set of leaves, put the loop between the top leaves and secure it to the support with a sliver of scotch tape. This delicate operation will help the young plants develop stronger stems to support the upper leaves.

Be creative, since artificial light can be turned off and on and adjusted at will to produce almost any type of plant. For example, one can starve the top of the plant and prolong flowering by turning off the overhead light and stimulating the side branches by increasing the side light. In this way, side branches can be made to grow long enough to enjoy the influence of the overhead light, and the plant actually becomes more bushy without actually hampering its outward growth. The hanging side light can be employed to stimulate lower branches in a similar manner. When using this technique, care must be taken so that the top of the plant does not migrate over to the hanging light. The plants are amazingly flexible, and will turn in every direction in search of the light.

Another experiment you may wish to try is this: if the daylight cycle is shortened to 16 hours shortly after germinating, and the night cycle interrupted by a couple of hours of sunlight during the 19th and 20th hours, you will have considerably more female plants.

WHEN THE PLANTS START TO DEVELOP FLOWER STALKS, you may want to use a SUN LAMP. Place the sun lamp about 3 feet from the plants for an hour each day, thereby causing the potent resin to be drawn up through the stalks and onto the flowering parts at a time when the plants would otherwise be devoting most of their energies to sexual development.

Considering the present political climate prevailing in the United States today, I believe that better marihuana can be grown indoors than outdoors simply because one can control the environment more safely indoors and grow the plants under perfect conditions. Although one can grow unlimited quantities outdoors, one can also grow fairly large crops indoors. For instance, if you have a large house, take an empty room and line the floor with tar paper or similar substance. Put up the lights, bring in the soil (each plant needs about a cubic foot of soil for root development), and you'll be in business. Attics and basements are also ideal places for large crops.